

Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. §1.111
Application No. 10/525,740
Attorney Docket No. 052178

REMARKS

Claims 1-17, 19-28 and 30-32 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 7, 18, 20, 24 and 29 have been amended.

I. The Information Disclosure Statement

The Examiner has crossed of the first six foreign references on the IDS filed February 26, 2007. Applicants' attorney's records show that the references were submitted. See the attached USPTO date stamped filing receipt and the statement in the IDS transmittal letter that copies of all of the non-U.S. patent documents were enclosed.

The Examiner is requested to fully consider the IDS filed February 26, 2007, including documents 1-6.

For the convenience of the Examiner, attached are duplicate copies of documents 1-6.

II. The Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112

Claims 1, 2, 4-22 and 24-32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as allegedly being indefinite.

The Examiner states that claims 1, 7 and 20 contain indefinite subject matter.

Claim 1 has been amended for clarity to correct the antecedent basis for the second and subsequent use of the term polyamide.

Claim 7 has been amended for clarity to recite "condensed water".

Claim 20 has been amended for clarity to recite that repeating unit (V) is an optional repeating unit and not further defining the diamine and dicarboxylic acid raw materials recited in claim 7.

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For the above reasons, it is respectfully submitted that Applicants' claims are clear and definite and it is requested that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112 be reconsidered and withdrawn.

The Examiner has not rejected claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 18 and 29 based on any art rejections. Therefore, in view of the clarifications to the claims, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 1, 2 and 4-6 are allowable.

I. The Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) Based on Tanaka et al

Claim 23 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as obvious over U.S. 6,489,435 (Tanaka et al) of record.

Claim 23 has been amended to recite that the "a raw material preparation step of separately preparing a melted diamine and a melted dicarboxylic acid" and that the "raw material introduction step of continuously introducing the melted diamine and the melted dicarboxylic acid separately into a polymerization reaction apparatus"

Tanaka et al discusses that the diamine component can be added in liquid form and that the dicarboxylic acid can be added in liquid form. However, Tanaka discloses addition of a dicarboxylic acid to a liquid diamine component in a batchwise manner.

For the above reasons, it is respectfully submitted that the subject matter of claim 23 is neither taught by nor made obvious from the disclosures of Tanaka et al and it is requested that the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102/103(a) be reconsidered and withdrawn.

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II. The Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. §103 Based on Tanaka et al

Claims 7-17, 19-22, 24-28 and 30-32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over U.S. 6,489,435 (Tanaka et al) described hereinabove.

Claims 18 and 29 are not rejected based on Tanaka et al. Independent claims 7 and 24 have been amended to include the subject matter of claims 18 and 29, respectively.

Claims 8-17 and 19-22 depend on claim 7 and claims 25-28 and 30-32 depend on claim 24.

For the above reasons, it is respectfully submitted that the subject matter of claims 7-17, 19-22, 24-28 and 30-32 is neither taught by nor made obvious from the disclosures of Tanaka et al and it is requested that the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102/103(a) be reconsidered and withdrawn.

III. The §102/103 Rejections Based on WO 99/61511 and WO 99/61510

Claims 7-17, 19-28, 30 and 32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as obvious over WO 99/61511.

Claims 7-17, 19-28, 30 and 32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as obvious over WO 99/61510.

Claim 31 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over WO 99/61511 or WO 99/61510 in view of Tanaka et al.

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Claims 18 and 29 are not rejected based on WO 99/61510 and WO 99/61511. Independent claims 7 and 24 have been amended to include the subject matter of claims 18 and 29, respectively.

Claims 8-17 and 19-22 depend on claim 7 and claims 25-28 and 30-32 depend on claim 24.

As for claim 23, claim 23 has been amended to recite that the “a raw material preparation step of separately preparing a melted diamine and a melted dicarboxylic acid” and that the “raw material introduction step of continuously introducing the melted diamine and the melted dicarboxylic acid separately into a polymerization reaction apparatus”.

For the above reasons, it is respectfully submitted that the subject matter of 7-17, 19-28, and 30-32 is neither taught by nor made obvious from the disclosures of WO 99/61510 and WO 99/61511, alone or in view of Tanaka et al, and it is requested that the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102/103(a) be reconsidered and withdrawn.

IV. Conclusion

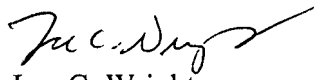
In view of the above, Applicants respectfully submit that their claimed invention is allowable and ask that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112 and the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §§102 and 103 be reconsidered and withdrawn. Applicants respectfully submit that this case is in condition for allowance and allowance is respectfully solicited.

If any points remain at issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the local exchange number listed below.

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If this paper is not timely filed, Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. The fees for such an extension or any other fees that may be due with respect to this paper may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-2866.

Respectfully submitted,
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